

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-14 and 16-22 are pending. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that Claims 20-22 are allowed and Claims 4, 5, 10, 11, 15, 17 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1-3, 6-9, 12-16, 19, 23 and 24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Peir et al. (US Patent App. No. 2002/0144063). The Examiner stated essentially that Peir teaches all the limitations of Claims 1-3, 6-9, 12-16, 19, 23 and 24.

Claims 1, 6, 13, 20, 23 and 24 are the independent claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable Claim 5. Claim 6 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable Claim 10. Claim 13 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable Claim 15.

Claims 2 and 3 depend from Claim 1. Claims 7-9 and 12 depend from Claim 6. Claims 14-16 and 19 depend from Claim 13. The dependent claims are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given for the respective independent claims. Claims 23 and 24 have been cancelled. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

For the forgoing reasons, the present application, including claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-14 and 16-22, is believed to be in condition for allowance. The Examiner's early and favorable action is

respectfully urged.

Respectfully submitted,

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Nathaniel T. Wallace
Reg. No. 48,909
Attorney for Applicant

F. CHAU & ASSOCIATES, LLC
130 Woodbury Road
Woodbury, New York 11797
TEL: (516) 692-8888
FAX: (516) 692-8889